

**SECRET**

25X1

**COUNTRY** Austria

DATE:

25X1

**SUBJECT** Soviet Purchasing Unit in Vienna

**INFO.**

DIST. 15 ~~25~~ October 1947

**PAGES**

## SUPPLEMEN

## ORIGIN

## **DISTRIBUTION**

[illegible]

25X1  
25X1  
25X1  
25X1  
25X1  
25X1

This document is hereby regraded to  
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the  
letter of 16 October 1978 from the  
Director of Central Intelligence to the  
Archivist of the United States.  
Next Review Date: 2008

From April to September 1946, the Soviet purchasing unit at Paniglgasse 20, Vienna IV paid several million schillings weekly for goods purchased from Austrian firms. Every ten or twelve days, 1,000,000 schillings were paid to the Palmers Strümpfe firm for socks, underwear, stockings, and other dry goods; almost the same amount was paid to the Julius Meinel A.G. for candy; 100,000 schillings were disbursed every two weeks to the Sigmund Landvay and M. Maurer firms for textiles, buttons, and ribbons. However, most of the goods acquired by the purchasing unit were obtained from black market sources. Knoll and Vysozkaya, members of the unit, once traveled with a smuggler to Linz, whence they brought back gold wrist watches worth several million schillings.

Interpreters in the office are paid 600 schillings a month, and every two weeks they receive a twenty-pound package containing meat, flour, fat, and tobacco; these are all Austrian products.

3. Univermag, located in Karlsplatz, Vienna IV, is a Soviet military goods store supplied by the Soviet purchasing unit. From January to March 1947, Univermag sold goods in the amount of 7,000,000 schillings, which were deposited in the Soviet Military Bank in Starhembergasse, Vienna IV.

4. The following are attached to the Soviet purchasing unit in Vienna:

Rakhlenko, Captain

Chief of the unit.

Document No.

NO CHANGE in class. ☐

25X1

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

25X1

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763 25X1

Date: APR 18 1978 By

**CLASSIFICATION**      ~~**SECRET**~~

25X1

**CONFIDENTIAL**

LIBRARY COPY

OC 16 1947

~~SECRET~~

25X1

25X1

**CONFIDENTIAL**

25X1 Knoll, Captain

Deputy to Rakhlenko.

25X1 Hrasch, Maria

Rakhlenko's secretary and interpreter. Lives in Burggasse, Vienna VII. Probably of Ukrainian origin.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1 Vysozkaya, Marushka

Works in same office with Maria Hrasch, whose niece she is

5. In addition to the persons listed above, six or seven Soviet officers, two Soviet civilian bookkeepers; three interpreters, and several workmen, all unidentified, work in Rakhlenko's office.

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50, U.S.C. 31 and 32 as amended. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

~~SECRET~~

25X1

25X1